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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

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Floor: 2/AD/2R

03/04/2022 06:47 PM

Senator Pizzo moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)

Delete lines 266 - 276

and insert:

(2) ACCREDITATION.—

(a) By September 1, 2022, the Board of Governors or the State Board of Education, as applicable, shall identify and determine the accrediting agencies or associations best suited to serve as an accreditor for public postsecondary institutions. Such accrediting agencies or associations must be recognized by the database created and maintained by the United States



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Department of Education. A public postsecondary institution may not be accredited by the same accrediting agency or association for consecutive accreditation cycles. In the year following reaffirmation or fifth-year review by its accrediting agencies or associations, each public postsecondary institution must seek and obtain accreditation from an accrediting agency or association identified by the Board of Governors or State Board of Education, respectively, before its next reaffirmation or fifth-year review date. The requirements of this subsection are not applicable to those professional, graduate, departmental, or certificate programs at public postsecondary institutions that have specific accreditation requirements or best practices, including, but not limited to, law, pharmacy, engineering, or other similarly situated educational programs.

(b) Once a public postsecondary institution is required to seek and obtain accreditation from an agency or association identified pursuant to paragraph (a), the institution shall provide quarterly reports of its progress to the Board of Governors or State Board of Education, as applicable. If each accreditation agency or association identified pursuant to paragraph (a) has refused to grant candidacy status to a public postsecondary institution, then the Board of Governors or State Board of Education, as applicable, may identify additional agencies or associations to which an institution may apply. If a public postsecondary institution is not granted candidacy status before its next reaffirmation or fifth-year review date, the institution may remain with its current accrediting agency or association.



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D I R E C T O R Y C L A U S E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the directory clause is amended as follows:

Delete line 259

and insert:

Section 3. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section
1008.47, Florida Statutes, is created to

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T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 18 - 27

and insert:

requiring the Board of Governors and State Board of
Education to identify and determine accrediting
agencies or associations best suited for public
postsecondary institutions by a specified date;
providing requirements for such accrediting agencies
or associations; prohibiting public postsecondary
institutions from being accredited by the same agency
or association for consecutive accreditation cycles;
requiring public postsecondary institutions to obtain
accreditation from accrediting agencies or
associations identified by the Board of Governors or
State Board of Education, respectively; providing that
specified academic programs are exempt from such
requirements; requiring institutions to provide
specified reports to the Board of Governors or the
State Board of Education; authorizing institutions to
remain with current accreditors under certain
circumstances; creating a cause of